



Library



ACKA BY

BOSTON RURAL DISTRICT COUNCIL

ANNUAL REPORT

OF THE

MEDICAL OFFICER OF HEALTH

AND OF THE

CHIEF

PUBLIC HEALTH INSPECTOR

FOR THE YEAR 1963

1963

BOSTON RURAL DISTRICT COUNCIL

Chairman of the Council :

COUNCILLOR W. M. STANWELL, J.P.

Clerk of the Council :

S. M. FORMAN

Staff of the Public Health Department

Medical Officer of Health :

G. HIRD, M.B., Ch.B., D.P.H.

Chief Public Health Inspector :

G. G. POPPLEWELL, F.A.P.H.I.

Senior Additional Public Health Inspector :

P. McPHUN, M.A.P.H.I.

Additional Public Health Inspector :

G. FOX, M.A.P.H.I.

Senior Clerk : C. H. CUTHBERT

Shorthand Typist/Clerk : Miss J. SMITH

Medical Officer's Clerk : D. DADY

BOSTON RURAL DISTRICT COUNCIL.

Council Offices,
126 London Road,
Boston, Lincs.
Telephone : 3271.

To the Chairman and Members of the Boston Rural District Council.

Mr. Chairman, Mrs. Bowden and Gentlemen,

It is with much pleasure that I present to you the Annual Statistical Report on the various health aspects of the Rural District and the work of your Health Department for the year 1963.

The estimated home population in the Registrar-General's Mid-Year Estimate for 1963 was 22,800, an increase of 170 over the previous year. The corresponding figure for 1953 was 21,120 which gives an increase since that date of 1,680, an indication that in the past 10 years the population in the District has been growing.

There were 366 Live Births registered during the year, 18 of these being illegitimate. The total of 366 is 40 more than in the previous year. The Crude Birth Rate was 16.1 and this figure multiplied by the Correction Factor given by the Registrar-General gives a Corrected Birth Rate of 15.9. This is less than the National figure of 18.2. There were only 5 Still Births during the year, a decrease of 8 compared with last year. Last year's figures were exceptionally high however, and the figure of 5 is more in keeping with the average occurring in the Rural District in the past few years. The Still Birth Rate for the Rural District is 13.5 which is less than that for England and Wales which is 17.2. Five infants died under the age of 1 year during 1963. Of these, 4 occurred within the first month of life and the cause of death in each case could be associated with conditions arising during the mother's pregnancy. The Infant Mortality Rate was 13.7 which is quite low compared with the figure for England and Wales, namely 21.1. Perinatal Mortality which is the combination of Still Births and Deaths under 1 week, of which there was a total of 8, gives a figure of 21.6 per 1,000 total Live and Still Births. This compares favourably with the National figure of 29.3.

With regard to Deaths during 1963, 239 were recorded, an increase of 12 compared with 1962. This gives a Crude Death Rate of

10.5 and a Corrected Death Rate (again using the Correction Factor) of 11.1. This figure is again lower than the National figure of 12.2.

Approximately 18% of all the deaths were due to malignant disease. Of the 43 deaths, 7 were due to Lung Cancer all occurring in men. This represents approximately 16% of all the deaths from Cancer in all its forms. It would be interesting to know the smoking history of all these males dying from Cancer of the lung. With regard to Heart and Circulatory disease in all its forms, 117 deaths were due to this cause. It is interesting to note that twice as many men died of coronary disease as did women, whereas in respect of vascular lesions in the nervous system, i.e. mainly strokes, the figure was reversed in that twice as many females died from this cause as did males. About 12% of all deaths were due to lung infections, namely Pneumonia and Bronchitis. There were 4 deaths from motor vehicle accidents and 4 deaths from other accidents. There were 3 deaths from Suicide.

As far as Infectious Diseases were concerned the highest number of notifications were received in respect of Measles, 347 being notified during the year. The next highest group was Dysentery with 242 confirmed cases. This was the biggest outbreak which had occurred in the Rural District and caused a great deal of trouble. It is, of course, mainly a disease of children and can spread quickly amongst them. The infection is invariably brought home and in some instances the parents were undoubtedly infected by their children. The investigation of these cases is both unrewarding and time-consuming but the exclusion of positive cases and their early treatment goes a long way in the elimination of the disease. As a result a good deal of the public health inspector's time was taken up with this work—often at the expense of other duties. This, of course, is unavoidable as outbreaks of Dysentery are unpredictable and occur quite unexpectedly. Few of the other infectious diseases caused any undue concern though there was quite a big increase in the number of cases of Pneumonia notified. No cases of Poliomyelitis occurred during the year. This was the fifth consecutive year that there had been no notification of this disease. It appears quite obvious that this is a direct result of mass inoculation of susceptible groups of the population. With regard to immunisation in the Rural District this is very satisfactory particularly in the school age groups. Here the lowest percentage figure was 86.2 whilst the highest is 97.8. This is indeed an excellent response to immunisation. The percentage figures begin to fall in the late teenage groups and continue to fall during the twenties. In the late 30 age groups the figures fall to approximately 40%. It is surprising to think that this group of

adults who in many cases must know or have seen the results of an attack of Poliomyelitis and who themselves are still in age groups " at risk " are too apathetic to seek protection for themselves.

With regard to Housing, Slum Clearance again proceeded slowly during the year and tables later in this Report give the number of houses dealt with under the Housing Act. In relation to this, however, the fact that only 22 Council houses were completed in the Rural District during 1963 is not very encouraging. There are still too many houses occupied on which statutory action has been taken.

In spite of this the standard of housing in the District has improved considerably in the past few years and continues to do so. Improvement Grants have been used to bring many older type houses up to modern standards but many more could be dealt with in this way.

Caravans are not a major problem in this area. Most of the sites are for single caravans and these cause little or no trouble. It has been difficult to supervise these sites, however, with sufficient frequency owing to lack of time by the district inspectors.

As far as drainage is concerned, further progress was made during the year with the various schemes throughout the Rural District. The sewerage of parts of Butterwick and Freiston together with extensions in Wyberton and Fishtoft and expansion of the Sewage Disposal Works there continued during the year. During the year approval was given for the Swineshead scheme which will be a major one as far as the Rural District is concerned. In spite of all these sewerage schemes a large number of houses are still on cesspool drainage, the emptying of which and the disposal of the contents give rise to additional problems at the Sewage Disposal Works.

Continued progress was made in the reduction of sanitary pails by approximately 200 during the year. It is still necessary to use vehicles for this service, however, but with further conversions to water closets proceeding at an increased pace, this number will continue to diminish.

Refuse collection was again very satisfactory though not without its own particular difficulties. Re-organisation and re-arrangement of areas is often necessary to meet changing conditions and day-to-day emergencies but nevertheless a weekly collection has been maintained.

Sites for the disposal of the larger quantity of refuse collected yearly are rapidly becoming exhausted and the Council will have to

consider the possibility of buying suitable land for this purpose or introducing an alternative method of disposal.

Meat Inspection continued to occupy a great percentage of the public health inspectors' time. The total number of animals inspected increased to 9,622 as compared with 6,330 in 1962, which is an increase of 52%. This increase was represented by over 400 beast, 700 sheep and 2,000 pigs. From these figures it is understandable that more and more of the inspectors' time was devoted to this service and that this could only be done at the expense of their other statutory duties. In order to achieve 100% inspection it was necessary for the inspectors to work outside their normal hours of duty, mainly in the evening.

Introduction of the Meat Inspection Regulations, 1963, came into operation on 1st October and this laid down the technique of inspection and also introduced the certified stamp of inspection to all " fit " carcasses.

Generally speaking the health of the inhabitants of the Rural District was very satisfactory and with regard to the vital statistics, compared very well with those for England and Wales. The work of the Health Department progressed during the year though the staff were under considerable pressure all the time. Meat Inspection, Drainage works, Infectious Diseases and Housing occupied nearly all the inspectors' available time and other duties were only possible when circumstances allowed. The staff are to be congratulated on their work during the year and I should like to thank Mr. Popplewell for his assistance in the preparation of this Report.

In conclusion, I would like to thank the Chairman and Members of the Public Health Committee and the Council for their continued support during the year and also all the other Chief Officers and their respective staffs, for the help and co-operation extended to the Health Department during 1963.

I am,

Mr. Chairman; Mrs. Bowden and Gentlemen,

Your obedient Servant,

G. HIRD,

Medical Officer of Health.

August, 1964.

STATISTICS AND SOCIAL CONDITIONS OF THE AREA.

GENERAL STATISTICS.

Area (in acres)	84,398
Home Population (Registrar-General's Mid-Year estimate for 1963)	22,800
Number of dwellings on rate book	7,534
Average number of persons per acre	.27
Number of rated dwellings per acre	.089
Average number of persons per square mile	172
Estimated product of a penny rate	£1,646
Rateable value as at 1st April, 1963	£413,033

SOCIAL CONDITIONS.

The social conditions of the district have remained unchanged during the year.

VITAL STATISTICS.

Live Births	Male	Female	Total
Legitimate	192	156	348
Illegitimate	8	10	18
Total Live Births	200	166	366
Live Birth Rate per 1,000 of the estimated population (crude)	16.1		
Live Birth Rate per 1,000 of the estimated population (adjusted)	15.9		
Illegitimate live births per cent. of total live births	4.9%		
Still Births	Male	Female	Total
Legitimate	2	2	4
Illegitimate	—	1	1
Total Still Births	2	3	5
Still Birth Rate per 1,000 total (live and still) births ...	13.5		
Total Live and Still Births	Male 202	Female 169	Total 371
Infant Deaths			
Deaths of Infants under 1 year of age	Male	Female	Total
Legitimate	3	2	5
Illegitimate	—	—	—
Total	3	2	5

Infant Mortality Rates :—

(a) All infants per 1,000 live births	...	...	...	13.7
(b) Legitimate infants, per 1,000 legitimate live births	...	...	...	14.4
(c) Illegitimate infants, per 1,000 illegitimate live births	...	...	...	Nil

Deaths of Infants under 4 weeks of age						Male	Female	Total
Legitimate	...	...	...	...	...	3	1	4
Illegitimate	...	...	...	...	...	—	—	—
Total	...	...	...	...	...	3	1	4

Neonatal Mortality Rate per 1,000 total live births ... 10.9

Deaths of Infants under 1 week of age						Male	Female	Total
Legitimate	...	...	...	...	...	2	1	3
Illegitimate	...	...	...	...	...	—	—	—
Total	...	...	...	...	...	2	1	3

Early Neonatal Mortality Rate per 1,000 total live births ... 8.2

Perinatal Mortality						Male	Female	Total
Still Births and Deaths under 1 week						4	4	8
Perinatal Mortality Rate per 1,000 total live and still births						...	...	21.6

Maternal Mortality

Maternal Deaths (including abortion)	...	...	...	Nil
Maternal Mortality Rate per 1,000 total (live and still) births	...	...	...	Nil

Deaths						Male	Female	Total
All Causes	...	...	...	...	...	129	110	239
Death Rate per 1,000 of the population (crude)	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	10.5
Death Rate per 1,000 of the population (adjusted)	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	11.1

OBSERVATIONS ON VITAL STATISTICS

In the following comments on the Vital Statistics both the crude birth and death rates are given together with the rates after adjustment by the Comparability Factors. These factors have been supplied by the Registrar-General and are intended to afford a means of adjustment to allow for the differing age and sex distribution of the population in different areas. Consequently, the adjusted birth and death rates enable a more accurate comparison to be made with the corresponding rates in other areas.

It is also emphasised that undue significance should not be attached to rates which are based on very small numbers (e.g. infant mortality) and that a comparison of such rates with those in other areas, or with earlier years may have little statistical significance.

POPULATION :

The Registrar-General's estimate of the home population for the mid-year, 22,800, shows an increase over the figure for the previous year which was 22,630. The number of births for the year exceeded the number of deaths by 127.

BIRTHS :

There were 366 births in the Rural District during 1963. This was 40 more than in the previous year. This total comprises 200 male and 166 female. The Crude Birth Rate was 16.1 whilst the Corrected Birth Rate was 15.9. This was higher than the corresponding figures of 14.4 and 14.3 for 1962. The rate for England and Wales was 18.2 per 1,000 population. There were 18 illegitimate births, 8 male and 10 female. This was 8 more than occurred in 1962.

STILL BIRTHS :

There were 5 Still Births in 1963, 8 less than in the previous year. The Still Birth Rate was 13.5 which is very much less than the National figure of 17.2.

MATERNAL MORTALITY :

There were fortunately no deaths from this cause in 1963.

INFANT MORTALITY :

There were 5 Infant Deaths under the age of 1 year during 1963. This was 2 less than in 1962. The Infant Mortality Rate was 13.7 in the Rural District whilst the corresponding figure for England and Wales was 21.1.

PERINATAL MORTALITY :

This includes the Still Births (5) and Deaths under 1 week (3) a total of 8. This was 8 less than in the previous year. This gives a Perinatal Mortality Rate of 21.6 which compares favourably with the corresponding National figure of 29.3.

Birth Rates, Death Rates and Infant Mortality Rates in Boston Rural District, 1949-1963.

Year	No. of Births	Crude Birth Rates	No. of Deaths	Crude Death Rates	Infant Mortality Rates	Average 5 years		
						Birth Rates	Death Rates	Infant Mortality Rates
1949	329	16.3	200	9.9	24.3	17.1	10.6	21.5
1950	363	17.9	229	11.3	27.5			
1951	346	16.6	233	11.2	17.3			
1952	356	17.2	201	9.7	22.5			
1953	375	17.7	226	10.7	16.0			
1954	403	18.9	212	9.9	22.3	16.8	10.1	23.2
1955	356	16.5	228	10.6	25.3			
1956	329	15.0	224	10.2	30.4			
1957	366	16.6	252	11.4	24.6			
1958	372	16.8	186	8.4	13.4			
1959	297	13.3	206	9.2	30.3	14.9	9.5	20.0
1960	362	16.1	208	9.3	22.1			
1961	327	14.6	195	8.7	12.2			
1962	326	14.4	227	10.0	21.5			
1963	366	16.1	239	10.5	13.7			

DEATHS :

The corrected figure of deaths allocated to the Rural District, after inward and outward transfers, was 239. This was 12 more than in 1962. The resulting Crude Death Rate was 10.5 and the Corrected Death Rate 11.1. Again this was lower than the rate of 12.2 per 1,000 population for England and Wales. The various causes of death are listed below in the usual fashion.

CAUSES OF DEATH IN THE DISTRICT IN 1963.

No.	Cause of Death.				Males	Females
1.	Tuberculosis, respiratory	...	...	...	—	—
2.	Tuberculosis, other	...	...	...	1	1
3.	Syphilitic disease	...	...	...	—	—
4.	Diphtheria	...	...	...	—	—
5.	Whooping Cough	...	...	...	—	—
6.	Meningococcal infections	...	...	...	—	—
7.	Acute Poliomyelitis	...	...	...	—	—
8.	Measles	...	...	...	—	—
9.	Other infective and parasitic diseases	...	...	...	—	—
10.	Malignant neoplasm, stomach	...	...	...	3	3
11.	Malignant neoplasm, lung, bronchus	...	...	...	7	—
12.	Malignant neoplasm, breast	...	...	...	—	2

No.	Cause of Death.	Males	Females
13.	Malignant neoplasm, uterus	—	2
14.	Other malignant and lymphatic neoplasms ...	14	9
15.	Leukaemia, aleukaemia	2	1
16.	Diabetes	—	—
17.	Vascular lesions of nervous system	14	27
18.	Coronary disease, angina	25	12
19.	Hypertension with heart disease	2	2
20.	Other heart disease	18	17
21.	Other circulatory disease	2	4
22.	Influenza	—	—
23.	Pneumonia	12	4
24.	Bronchitis	11	3
25.	Other diseases of respiratory system	—	—
26.	Ulcer of stomach and duodenum	2	1
27.	Gastritis, enteritis and diarrhoea	—	—
28.	Nephritis and nephrosis	—	—
29.	Hyperplasia of prostate	2	—
30.	Pregnancy, childbirth, abortion	—	—
31.	Congenital malformations	1	1
32.	Other defined and ill-defined diseases	6	17
33.	Motor vehicle accidents	3	1
34.	All other accidents	2	2
35.	Suicide	2	1
36.	Homicide and operations of war	—	—
ALL CAUSES ...		129	110

GENERAL PROVISION OF HEALTH SERVICES FOR THE AREA.

LABORATORY FACILITIES :

Facilities are available at the Public Health Laboratory, Lincoln, for the bacteriological examination of samples of water and ice cream.

The Laboratories of the Royal Institute of Public Health and Hygiene, London, continue to carry out chemical examinations of water samples on behalf of the Department.

AMBULANCE SERVICE :

This service is provided and maintained by the Holland County Council through the Ambulance and Transport Department.

SCHOOL MEDICAL AND MATERNITY AND CHILD WELFARE SERVICES :

These services are administered by the Holland County Council.

TREATMENT CENTRES AND CLINICS :

Under the National Health Service Act, 1946, the provision and administration of Treatment Centres and Clinics is delegated to the Regional Hospital Board and the County Council.

The treatment of Scabies and similar complaints is carried out at the Cleansing Station, London Road, Boston, which is under the control of the County Council.

NURSING IN THE HOME :

The home nursing service is under the control of the Local Health Authority.

HOSPITALS :

All Hospitals in the area are under the control of the Boston Group Hospital Management Committee of the Sheffield Regional Hospital Board. Details of the facilities available in Boston and District are as follows :—

Boston General Hospital—Acute General.

London Road Hospital, Boston—General, Orthopaedic and Traumatic Surgery.

White House Hospital, Fishtoft—Infectious and Chest Diseases.

Wyberton West Hospital, Boston—Medical and Maternity.

Woodlands Court, Kirton—Aged Sick.

Freiston Hall Children's Hospital—Sick Children.

NATIONAL ASSISTANCE ACT, 1948, SECTION 47—REMOVAL TO SUITABLE PREMISES OF PERSONS IN NEED OF CARE AND ATTENTION :

No action was taken by the Council under this Section.

PREVALENCE OF, AND CONTROL OVER, INFECTIOUS AND OTHER DISEASES.

The following table shows the total number of infectious diseases notified and confirmed during the year and the numbers admitted to hospital.

Notifiable Diseases during the year, 1963.

Disease	Cases Notified	Confirmed Cases	Cases admitted to Hospital
Chicken Pox	124	124	Nil
Dysentery	243	242	1
Erysipelas	1	1	Nil
Food Poisoning	5	5	1
Malaria (Contracted abroad)	1	1	1
Measles	347	347	2
Pneumonia	21	21	2
Puerperal Pyrexia	1	1	Nil
Scarlet Fever	1	1	Nil
Whooping Cough	7	7	Nil

With regard to Infectious diseases, the most troublesome was the large outbreak of Dysentery. The 243 cases were the highest recorded in the Rural District. Indeed there were probably many more undiscovered mild cases. Most of the affected persons were children

which, of course, is the most susceptible age group for this infection. The main cause of spread is lack of personal hygiene as Dysentery is largely a person-to-person infection rather than food or water borne. It would seem obvious that at least the major part of the answer to this problem would be improved sanitary and washing facilities and higher standards in personal habits and training in all places where groups of people use communal facilities. Schools are an obvious starting place in the first instance but in many homes no example is shown by the parents to their children.

During the year the Public Health Inspectors made 791 visits in connection with investigation and control of infectious diseases.

Infectious Diseases Notified 1954-1963.

Disease	1963	1962	1961	1960	1959	1958	1957	1956	1955	1954
Chicken Pox ..	124	460	96	133	206	123	81	180	275	166
Diphtheria ..	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Dysentery ..	243	16	5	14	79	—	—	61	69	12
Encephalitis ..	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Enteric or typhoid fever ..	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Erysipelas ..	1	3	1	2	14	3	1	5	3	2
Food Poisoning ..	5	1	3	5	7	8	3	10	7	—
Malaria (contracted abroad)	1	—	—	—	—	1	—	—	—	—
Measles ..	347	172	564	15	395	14	905	55	402	10
Meningococcal Infection ..	—	—	2	—	—	—	—	—	—	2
Ophthalmia Neonatorum ..	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Paratyphoid fever ..	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	1
Pneumonia ..	21	7	11	6	9	14	14	12	21	11
Poliomyelitis : Paralytic ..	—	—	—	—	—	—	5	—	1	—
Non-Paralytic ..	—	—	—	—	—	1	2	2	—	—
Puerperal Pyrexia ..	1	—	—	2	—	1	—	—	1	—
Scabies ..	—	—	—	—	5	7	—	—	1	3
Scarlet Fever ..	1	7	48	59	14	14	18	23	45	33
Smallpox ..	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Whooping Cough ..	7	3	63	15	4	32	97	30	33	153

TUBERCULOSIS REGISTER

Table I.

	Males		Females		Total
	Pul.	Non-Pul.	Pul.	Non-Pul.	
(a) Number of cases on Register at beginning of year	49	6	48	9	112
(b) Number of cases notified for first time in year	3	—	—	1	4
(c) Number of cases restored to Register	—	—	—	—	—
(d) Number of cases added to Register other than by formal notification	5	—	1	1	7
(e) Number of cases removed from Register during the year	10	—	3	1	14
(f) Number of cases remaining on Register on 31st December, 1963	47	6	46	10	109

SUMMARY OF CASES ON THE TUBERCULOSIS REGISTER 1954—1963

Table II.

Year	Cases on Register			Notifications each year			Deaths		
	Pul.	Non-Pul.	Total	Pul.	Non-Pul.	Total	Pul.	Non-Pul.	Total
1954	98	9	107	16	1	17	3	1	4
1955	97	10	107	11	3	14	—	—	—
1956	101	12	113	11	2	13	—	—	—
1957	98	12	110	8	2	10	1	—	1
1958	91	15	106	7	5	12	1	—	1
1959	96	15	111	14	—	14	2	—	2
1960	102	15	117	10	1	11	—	—	—
1961	102	14	116	5	—	5	2	—	2
1962	97	15	112	6	2	8	—	—	—
1963	93	16	109	9	2	11	—	1	1

TUBERCULOSIS :

Cases notified within the Rural District come under the control of Dr. A. M. Forrest, Chest Physician, South Lincolnshire Area.

The following table gives details of new cases notified and deaths occurring during the year

Age Groups	New Cases				Deaths			
	Respiratory		Non-Respiratory		Respiratory		Non-Respiratory	
	M.	F.	M.	F.	M.	F.	M.	F.
0—1	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
1—5	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
5—15	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
15—25	1	—	—	1	—	—	—	—
25—35	3	—	—	1	—	—	—	—
35—45	2	1	—	—	—	—	—	—
45—55	1	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
55—65	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	1
Over 65	1	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Total	8	1	—	2	—	—	—	1

TREATMENT OF SCABIES :

Facilities for the cleansing of persons requiring treatment are provided by the Holland County Council, the cost of such treatments in respect of persons other than school children being charged to the

District Council. Should medical practitioners request treatment for patients, details of notifications are immediately passed to the County Council thus ensuring that infected persons receive early treatment.

No cases of Scabies were reported in the District during the year.

IMMUNISATION :

All immunisation work within the District is under the jurisdiction of the Holland County Council. Below are given details of the number of children immunised during the year :

Diphtheria :

Under 1 year	...	...	...	...	...	168
1 and under 5 years	...	...	...	...	...	158
5-14 years	...	...	...	...	...	4
						330
Number of Booster Injections	...	...	...	...	...	471

Combined Diphtheria and Whooping Cough :

Under 5 years	...	...	...	...	...	Nil
---------------	-----	-----	-----	-----	-----	-----

Combined Diphtheria, Whooping Cough and Tetanus :

Under 5 years	...	...	...	...	...	326
---------------	-----	-----	-----	-----	-----	-----

The percentage of children immunised against Diphtheria in relation to the child population at 31.12.1963 is as follows :—

Under 1 year	...	...	...	...	...	54.1%
1 and under 5 years	...	...	...	...	...	56.3%
5-14 years	...	...	...	...	...	92.3%

The immunisation of children against Diphtheria, Whooping Cough and Tetanus continued fairly satisfactorily during 1963 with an increase in the number protected compared with 1962. Triple Antigen is now in general use except in particular individual cases.

VACCINATION AGAINST SMALLPOX :

Primary Vaccinations :

Under 1 year	...	...	...	...	...	...	95
1 year	...	...	...	...	...	...	18
2-4 years	...	...	...	...	...	...	4
5-14 years	...	...	...	...	...	...	3
15 years and over	...	...	...	...	...	...	9
							129

Re-vaccinations :

1 year	...	...	...	...	...	...	—
2-4 years	...	...	...	...	...	...	3
5-14 years	...	...	...	...	...	...	3
15 years and over	...	...	...	...	...	...	18
							24

There was a marked fall in the number of vaccinations against smallpox during 1963. The figures for 1962 were abnormally high due to the outbreaks of smallpox in various parts of the country. When the immediate risk disappears, the general public very quickly forget about it. In spite of this, parents are still urged to have their children vaccinated between 1 and 2 years of age, the time recommended by the Ministry of Health as the optimum period for this procedure to be carried out.

VACCINATION AGAINST POLIOMYELITIS :

The following information has been supplied by the County Health Department.

Position at 31st December, 1963.

Of the babies born in 1963, 10.7% had been vaccinated against poliomyelitis at 31.12.63. By 31st March, 1964, this figure had risen to 30.7%.

	Born in	Percentage Vaccinated			
Other Pre-School Ages :	1962	...	...	...	75.7
	1961	...	...	...	81.9
	1960	...	...	...	83.4
	1959	...	...	...	90.5
School Age Group :	1958	...	...	...	86.2
	1957	...	...	...	90.7
	1956	...	...	...	96.6
	1955	...	...	...	88.7
	1954	...	...	...	88.3
	1953	...	...	...	96.2
	1952	...	...	...	91.5
	1951	...	...	...	97.1
	1950	...	...	...	95.5
	1949	...	...	...	97.8
	1948	...	...	...	93.0
	1947	...	...	...	87.2
1937-1946 :	1946	...	...	...	85.4
	1945	...	...	...	79.2
	1944	...	...	...	81.8
	1943	...	...	...	78.4
	1942	...	...	...	73.3
	1941	...	...	...	61.9
	1940	...	...	...	58.9
	1939	...	...	...	50.4
	1938	...	...	...	47.7
	1937	...	...	...	47.5

	Born in	Percentage Vaccinated			
1927-1936 :	1936	...	...	...	53.5
	1935	...	...	...	48.2
	1934	...	...	...	52.7
	1933	...	...	...	50.7
	1932	...	...	...	45.2
	1931	...	...	...	36.7
	1930	...	...	...	41.3
	1929	...	...	...	40.9
	1928	...	...	...	34.4
	1927	...	...	...	43.0

A glance at the figures listed above gives an indication of the state of Poliomyelitis vaccination in the Rural District ; very good in the school age groups, diminishing as time goes on until it reaches approximately 40% in the highest age groups. It seems strange that many people do not consider it worth while to spend a short time (often just a few minutes on each occasion) to have a " sugar lump " than to risk possibly many months in hospital or even permanent paralysis for life.

PUBLIC WATER SUPPLY.

I am indebted to Mr. R. J. Cameron Stobie, Engineer and Manager of the South Lincolnshire Water Board, for the following report on the Rural Water Supply.

- A. (i) The quality of water going into supply was highly satisfactory.
- (ii) The amount of water supplied from the combined sources of Bourne and Pinchbeck to the Sutterton repumping station for 1963 was 458,412,000 gallons, of this amount 184,657,000 was pumped as a bulk supply to Boston Borough leaving a nett consumption in the Rural District of 273,755,000 gallons an increase of 11.5% over the consumption for 1962.
- B. Regular sampling of supplies in the area of distribution was carried out, some 36 in all being taken, all of which received a satisfactory report. 161 samples were taken from source with satisfactory reports.

Partial chemical analysis samples were taken at Bourne, with the following result :—

In parts per million	—January, 1963.
(“ Clearance Bright ”)	
Total Alkalinity—240:	Total Hardness—385:
Ammoniacal Nitrogen—	Oxygen absorbed—0.40:
0.013:	
Iron—absent	Fluoride—Less than 0.1

Nominal chlorination is done at source.

- C. The Board have never been troubled with water supplies which were plumbo-solvent in action, and so have never had to take precautions against it.
- D. No form of contamination has arisen at source or in the area of distribution.

With regard to the number of dwelling houses supplied from public water mains, I regret it is not possible at this stage to quote authentic figures. Until such time as the details have been verified, therefore, I append the schedule as at 31st December, 1962.

The following table gives the number in the respective parishes :—

Algarkirk	...	...	...	...	...	...	171
Amber Hill	...	...	...	...	...	...	137
Bicker	...	...	...	...	...	...	257
Benington	...	...	...	...	...	...	176
Brothertoft	...	...	...	..	...	...	132
Butterwick	...	...	...	...	...	...	190
Fishtoft	...	...	...	...	...	...	410
Frampton	...	...	...	...	...	...	406
Freiston	...	...	...	...	...	...	376
Fosdyke	...	...	...	...	...	...	149
Harts Grounds and Pelhams Land	...	...	...	...	...	...	26
Kirton	...	...	...	...	...	...	1059
Leverton	...	...	...	...	...	...	222
Old Leake	...	...	...	...	...	...	489
Sutterton	...	...	...	...	...	...	364
Swineshead	...	...	...	...	...	...	599
Wigtoft	...	...	...	...	...	...	164
Wrangle	..	...	...	...	...	...	454
Wyberton	..	...	...	...	...	...	932
Outside area	...	...	...	...	...	...	12
							6725

Water Analysis.

Four samples of water drawn from the mains at various points in the District were submitted by the Public Health Department for examination to the Public Health Laboratory at Lincoln or to the Royal Institute of Public Health and Hygiene. The results showed the water to be satisfactory.

REPORT OF THE CHIEF PUBLIC HEALTH INSPECTOR ON THE SANITARY CIRCUMSTANCES OF THE AREA.

HOUSING.

Slum Clearance.

The Council's Slum Clearance programme continued during the year. No statutory notices were served under Section 9 Housing Act, 1957 or under the Public Health Act, 1936. Few complaints were received, but those received were quickly dealt with, and invariably the property either became the subject of action under Section 16 of the Housing Act or was brought up to the statutory standard and improved with the aid of an improvement grant.

It will be noted from the statistics that the total number of houses demolished since January 1st, 1956 is steadily rising. There are, however, still a number of dwelling houses in the District upon which Demolition Orders, Closing Orders and Undertakings are operative, but which are still occupied. Obviously demolition cannot be enforced until the tenants are rehoused.

Surely it was the Minister's intention that the Slum Clearance programme should be geared to the rehousing programme, so that families living in unfit property could be quickly rehoused. Unfortunately this is not always the case and I would again strongly urge the Council to give priority to these families and rehouse them without delay.

Unfit dwellings demolished since 1st January, 1956 ...	179
Dwellings subject to Demolition Orders but not yet demolished	21
Dwellings subject to Closing Orders, not demolished	30
Dwellings subject to Undertakings not to re-let for human habitation	71

Overcrowding.

No cases of overcrowding were reported during 1963.

Improvement Grants.

Although the number of applications in connection with grants last year fell by almost one third from 78 to 52, the actual number of visits to properties in connection with this work increased slightly to 178. Every encouragement is given to owners who consider improving their property with a Discretionary or Standard Grant. Instances however have occurred where intending applicants have, after receiving all the encouragement possible, either not proceeded with the scheme or carried out the improvements without grant aid.

The large amount of time which your Public Health Inspectors have necessarily to spend on this work, involving initial inspections, discussions on site with owners and architects, and supervision of the work, can be very rewarding. The satisfactory completion of works to secure the improvement of an " older " house thereby prolonging the life of the house and affording modern comforts for the occupants gives a great deal of satisfaction to the officer concerned.

The Government is now considering a new Housing Bill which may mean the introduction of a modified form of compulsion on owners of certain types of property to improve their houses with the aid of Improvement Grants. It could also be that greater incentives may be offered to owners to induce them to take advantage of the schemes available. The Bill is not likely to become law for some time, but it is known that the Association of Public Health Inspectors has submitted proposals to the Minister of Housing and Local Government and your Public Health Inspectors are eagerly awaiting the new Act to see if any of these proposals have been incorporated in it.

I am quite sure that the standard of housing accommodation in the District has improved and continues to do so and that Improvement Grants have contributed in no small way to this higher standard. There are however still, unfortunately, many houses in the District which lack modern amenities where the owners appear unwilling to do anything in spite of every encouragement. I would point out, however, that it is not always the fault of the landlord. Tenants themselves in some cases are content to remain as they are and will not allow the improvements to be carried out because it would mean they may have to pay increased rent.

Compulsion is distasteful, but if voluntary improvement by landlords to prolong the life of older houses and provide them with modern amenities before they become slums does not accelerate, then some form of compulsion would seem inevitable, especially as the whole purpose of the grant schemes is to prevent further deterioration of property and ease the need for replacement of large numbers of structurally sound houses by building expensive new ones.

Summary of new dwellings completed during 1963.

Council Houses.	Benington	...	...	...	2
	Butterwick	...	...	...	2
	Fishtoft	...	...	...	6
	Sutterton	...	...	...	12
					—
					22
Private enterprise houses	...	...	...	...	58
					—
					80
					—

Remedy of Housing Defects.

Informal Notices served	...	...	...	...	...	...	3
Statutory Notices under the Public Health Act, 1936	...						Nil
Statutory Notices under the Housing Act, 1957 Section 9							Nil

Action under Sections 16 and 17, Housing Act, 1957.

Demolition Orders made	...	...	...	...	...	...	1
Closing Orders made	...	...	...	...	...	...	3
Undertakings not to re-let accepted	...	...	...	...	...	...	5
Dwellings demolished	...	...	...	...	...	...	17
Undertakings cancelled following repairs	...	...	...	...	...	...	Nil

Moveable Dwellings.

The caravan site at Wyberton has been reasonably well maintained and every standing has been occupied throughout the year, which gives proof of the necessity for such sites to be made available for those people who prefer to live in caravans, and those whose work is of an itinerant nature.

A small site for three caravans was provided at Swineshead during the year. This is a useful site and is used mainly by anglers at weekends although the site complies with the full standard of conditions and could be used for residential purposes if so desired.

Apart from these two sites most of the other licensed sites are for single caravans. It has not been possible to visit all these sites during the year, but generally they are reasonably well maintained and few complaints are received.

It would appear that caravans, by necessity, have come to stay as a permanent feature for living accommodation. This type of accommodation may be all right for newly-weds or married couples with no children, but it is doubtful if they are suitable for bringing up a family. At the best the limited amount of living space, together with the necessity to dry and air babies clothing, particularly in the winter months, may have serious effects on the occupants, not to mention the peaceful co-existence which is so necessary in such a confined space.

It may be there is a demand for suitable caravan sites for temporary holiday or recreational purposes, chiefly for use by anglers from the industrial areas. Although there is quite a difference between having to live permanently in a caravan and using one for short periods during the summer months, it is not advisable to permit such sites to develop in isolated places which makes it difficult to exercise proper control. Conditions attached to such licences should require that all reasonable public health requirements are satisfied and the licensing authority should ensure frequent inspections to satisfy themselves that the conditions are properly complied with.

DRAINAGE

Since the sewerage of parts of the parishes of Frampton and Kirton were completed in 1961, 708 properties have connected to the sewer. There are still, however, properties on the line of the sewer which could connect but in spite of every encouragement 66 have not yet done so.

In the parish of Wyberton which drains to the same Sewage Disposal Works the properties connected at the end of the year numbered 577. At the end of 1962 there were 19 properties which had not been connected. Since then further extensions to the sewers in Ralph's Lane and London Road have been carried out bringing in more properties, and at the end of 1963, 56 properties had not yet connected. Further extensions are taking place and it is anticipated many more properties will connect in the near future.

In Fishtoft parish 685 properties have now connected to the sewers. Further extensions of the sewers were carried out during the year which accounts for the slight increase from 26 to 32 not yet connected. Here too, further sewer extensions are in progress and extensions to the Sewage Disposal Works which will eventually take many more properties. During the year the Council proceeded with the sewerage of part of the parish of Leverton in the Lacey's Lane/Main Road area, which required the building of a new small Sewage Disposal Works. The Works came into use towards the end of 1963 and by the end of the year 27 properties had connected.

The sewerage of parts of the parishes of Butterwick and Freiston, which is the Council's current major development scheme, continued throughout the year. The Housing estate at Butterwick with 28 dwellings falls within the sewered area, and it is hoped the scheme will be available to receive connections soon to relieve the drainage position for this estate, as at present the drainage discharges to an open lagoon.

Thirteen Council Housing Estates have their own small sewage disposal plants. These are desludged by the Council's cesspool emptying vehicles every seven weeks. The plants on the whole are operating satisfactorily.

The total number of dwellings now connected to the Council's sewers or small sewage disposal plants is 2,700. There are still 3,450 dwellings in the district served by cesspools and some 1,200 dwellings with no proper drainage systems.

Considerable drainage difficulties are being experienced at a small Council Housing Estate in the parish of Amber Hill. Twenty-one properties are involved each having cesspool drainage with a small soakage system. In spite of extensions to the soakage systems and more frequent emptyings of the cesspools, seeping of sewage is taking

place into the open dyke, causing a serious nuisance. A report was submitted to the Council who decided that the only remedy was the provision of a small sewage disposal unit and a scheme is in course of preparation.

Drainage difficulties frequently occur in many parts of the Council's District, but until such times as main sewerage is available the difficulties can only be alleviated by more frequent emptying of the cesspools.

The Council's progressive policy in providing main drainage to as many of their parishes as is possible continues, and during the year the Minister authorised the Council to proceed with the provision of main drainage for parts of the parish of Swineshead.

There are, however, many areas in the Council's District where housing development has taken place which rely on cesspool drainage and soakaways for the disposal of foul water. In time the sub-soil in the area becomes sewage sick, a position which is aggravated by the use of detergents which clog up the pores of the soil, soakage becomes limited and in some instances ceases altogether. The emptying of the cesspool gives only temporary relief, and the only real remedy is to provide main drainage.

In view of the many drainage difficulties which exist in the District, I feel that the Council might consider restricting development in areas where main drainage is not likely to become available in the foreseeable future.

PUBLIC CLEANSING

REFUSE COLLECTION.

The introduction of the five day working week in 1962 presented a number of teething problems but these have been overcome, and the service is now working smoothly and efficiently.

The re-organisation of the service and re-adjustment of areas of collection for each vehicle has enabled a regular weekly collection of refuse to be maintained throughout the year, covering 98% of the properties in the District.

This service continues to be carried out using five vehicles, four Fore and Aft tippers, of which one is fitted with compression gear, and one side loader, all with diesel engines.

One older type side loading petrol engine vehicle is held in reserve in case of breakdown of one of the regular service vehicles, thereby enabling continuity of the service. A spare vehicle readily available is a valuable asset and is a "must" if a regular service is to be maintained. Its value is proved when a minor defect develops in

a regular service vehicle, this vehicle can be withdrawn from service and the defect remedied before it reaches major proportions. It also enables vehicles to be withdrawn from regular service for periodic overhaul, painting, etc., over and above the regular weekly service maintenance and thorough cleansing of the vehicle. Good maintenance is cheaper than new equipment. It prolongs the life of vehicles and enables them to be kept in regular use. Nevertheless, the time comes when it is no longer economic to continue the use of a particular vehicle, and in this respect it will be necessary to replace the old spare vehicle in the near future, as it is sixteen years old.

The collection of house refuse continues to provide a welcome service to the ratepayers. The increasing number of properties requiring the service, and the changing nature of the refuse collected, causes difficulties in collection and involves more frequent journeys to the disposal point. New types of vehicles are now available which to a large extent overcome this problem of bulky refuse. These vehicles operate on a continuous compression of refuse as it is deposited into the vehicle. This cuts down "trimming" of the load, reduces dust nuisance, and gives a greater holding capacity due to the continuous compaction.

Refuse collection is probably the hardest and most unrewarding of any employment in this modern age. Heavy lifting, often under revolting conditions, is still the lot of the average refuse collector. Not for him any automation, but solid hard graft day in, day out, under all kinds of climatic conditions. It would be as well to remind the Council of the appalling conditions of last winter, 1962/63. Everywhere was either snowed up, or frozen. Road conditions were extremely bad and to gain entrance to many properties was a hazardous task. Bins were often frozen solid and difficult to handle due to extreme cold. Nevertheless, in spite of the fact that many other less arduous forms of employment ceased, the refuse collection service continued and I feel that the public owe a debt of gratitude to these men for their spirit of service in carrying on under such appalling conditions.

Although I am sure the regularity of collection cannot be criticised, it is felt that the method of collection could be improved. In my opinion the use of "sleps" is outdated and unhygienic and consideration should be given by the Council to abolishing this system. It is primitive and can only be regarded as a retrograde form of refuse collection.

A few years ago a survey revealed that all kinds of receptacles, oil drums, dolly tubs, etc., were being used for refuse storage. By education, and in a few cases action under the Public Health Act, most of these receptacles were replaced with proper sanitary dustbins. Generally, officers responsible for refuse collection, particularly in Rural Districts, acknowledge that nothing less than a dustbin of $3\frac{1}{4}$

cubic feet capacity per dwelling is adequate. With the changing development taking place I feel that municipal schemes of ownership of refuse storage containers is bound to come. The advantages of such a scheme are widely acknowledged, but local authorities are reluctant to do so, mainly because of cost. However, if local authorities are to keep pace with developments in refuse containers, municipal schemes of ownership will necessarily have to be the first step.

The disposal of refuse is rapidly reaching a critical stage. It was hoped that the refuse tip on the south side of the District would last for a further five to six years, but with the increasing volume of refuse to be disposed of, and the desirability to assist traders to dispose of their waste it is doubtful if this tip will last beyond 1966. The position on the north is even worse. The tip at the Weirs, Butterwick will be filled in by the middle of 1964 and apart from a small pit at Benington there appears to be no further outlet. The position has worsened and is aggravated by the fact that satisfactory arrangements for the disposal of refuse on the Marshland at Butterwick Pullover and Freiston Shore could not be agreed between the Council and the appropriate authority.

Refuse disposal must be given absolute priority and the Council will have to consider this problem to ensure that suitable sites, or an alternative method of disposal, are made available within a very short period in order that the refuse collection service can continue.

The number of dustbins being emptied each week is steadily rising and the weight of refuse to be disposed of amounts to approximately 4,000 tons each year.

The table which follows gives information concerning the service. Inevitably with increased cost of labour, equipment, spares and vehicle maintenance, the cost of the service must rise.

REFUSE COLLECTION SERVICE STATISTICS.

Round No.	One	Two	Three	Four	Five
Vehicle No.	MDO 664	VDO 646	LDO 55	RDO 838	JJL 727
Purchased	1958	1962	1957	1960	1956
Capacity—cu. yds.	10.5	25	16/18	16/18	16/18
Engine Type	Diesel	Diesel	Diesel	Diesel	Diesel
Average miles per gall.	12	8	10	11	9
Average miles per week	224	148	174	204	84
No. of men in team	2	4	4	3	2
Refuse bins on round	1279	2250	2265	1547	421
Average bins per man per day	128	112	113	103	105

	1963	1962	1961	1960
Estimated cost of Refuse Collection Service	£18,300	£16,232	£14,171	£11,724
Cost of emptying per bin	47/2d.	42/4d.	37/7d.	31/7d.
Cost per bin per collection	11d.	10d.	9d.	8d.
Average period between emptyings	7 days	7 days	7-8 days	7-8 days

SANITARY PAIL EMPTYING.

This work continues to be carried out by two vehicles. The pail contents are by arrangement with the Council's Surveyor disposed of in a special sludge lagoon at Frampton sewage disposal works. After a retention period it is carted along with ordinary sewage sludge on to arable land and ploughed into the ground.

It is pleasing to note that the number of pails dropped considerably during the year from 1,253 to 1,048. The main reasons for this are the conversion of pails to water closets when properties connect to the new sewers, the Council's progressive policy in converting pails to water closets at its own properties, and improvements to properties under the Grant schemes.

Further conversion schemes are planned and it is hoped that eventually this primitive relic of the past will disappear.

PAIL EMPTYING SERVICE STATISTICS.

Round No.	One	Two
Vehicle No.	CJL 86	FDO 870
Purchased	1949	1953
Capacity	550 galls.	550 galls.
Engine Type	Petrol	Petrol
Average miles per gall.	6	6
Average miles per round	157	120
No. of men in team	2	2
No. of pails on round	333	715
Average pails per man per day	83	90

	1963	1962	1961
Estimated cost of Pail Emptying Service	£3,750	£3,600	£3,875
Cost of emptying per pail	71/6d.	57/6d.	59/2d.
Cost per pail per collection	1/1d.	10½d.	11d.

CESSPOOL EMPTYING.

Demand for this service increased during the year. This is possibly due to three main factors ; the public are becoming more aware that the period between emptyings is now only 12 months ; more properties require the service ; and properties which connect to the sewer require the cesspool to be emptied so that it can be filled in with rubble or soil.

The two.1100 gallon cesspool vehicles made it possible to deal fairly quickly with these requests. Disposal of cesspool contents continued in the sludge drying beds at Frampton Sewage Disposal Works. Unfortunately it would appear that the increased quantity of cesspool effluent passing through the works is beginning to have an adverse effect and it may be necessary before long to seek an alternative method of disposal.

CESSPOOL EMPTYING SERVICE STATISTICS.

Vehicle No.	RJL 542	OJL 988	
Purchased	1961	1960	
Capacity	1100 galls.	1100 galls.	
Engine Type	Diesel	Diesel	
Average miles per gallon	14	13	
Number of men in team	2	2	
	1963	1962	1961
Premises given free service	1832	1574	1438
Chargeable emptyings	506	371	536
Vaults emptied—chargeable	40	30	39
1000 gallon loads removed from cesspools, vaults, etc.	2057	1632	1727
Vehicle loads of sludge from Frampton Sewage Disposal Works	—	65	251
Vehicle loads removed from Housing Estate Sewage Plants	195	262	344

Estimated total expenditure of the Cesspool Emptying Service in 1963—£4,760.

Estimated income from chargeable work :

Private Premises	...	...	...	...	£600	
Council Premises	...	...	...	...	£410	
					—	£1010

Estimated net cost of the Service £3750

SALVAGE.

Materials suitable for salvage are collected by means of trailers attached to the refuse collection vehicles. The quantity disposed of in 1963 increased over the previous year by some 52 tons, the income also being higher in spite of the drop in price per ton. The market price for waste paper dropped during the year and unless the downward trend in price is reversed it may be uneconomic to continue to salvage waste paper.

The collection of waste paper should not, however, be entirely looked upon from a profit motive. If waste paper is not recovered as salvage then it would be necessary to collect and dispose of it as refuse, which could create numerous disposal problems and would increase the cost of collection and disposal.

Details of materials sold during 1963 are as follows :—

	Tons	Cwts.	Qrs.	£	s.	d.
Cardboard	28	8	0	192	0	6
Paper Sacks	2	11	0	22	19	0
Mixed Waste Paper	163	19	2	869	16	0
Textiles	2	8	2	61	13	6
	197	7	0	1146	9	0

INSPECTION AND SUPERVISION OF FOOD.

FOOD PREMISES.

With the ever increasing legislation in the sphere of public health resulting in the increase of the duties of your Public Health Inspectors it is inevitable that some duties have regrettably to be neglected.

The increased pressure of work of other essential public health duties has again been such that it is with regret I record that routine inspection of food premises under the Food Hygiene Regulations was very limited during the year. Further legislation affecting public health matters is imminent, and I feel that if these duties are to be properly performed in order to safeguard the public health, it will be essential for an additional public health inspector to be employed.

SLAUGHTERHOUSES.

Slaughter of animals for human consumption continued to take place at the six licensed slaughterhouses in the District. These premises were regularly inspected and a high standard of hygiene was generally maintained. Five of the six slaughterhouses have to rely on cesspool/soakage for disposal of their slaughterhouse drainage and all have at times experienced difficulty with their disposal problem. No drainage difficulty has arisen at the large slaughterhouse on the south side of the District where the drainage discharges to the Council's public sewer. Provision is being made for one other slaughterhouse to be connected to the Council's sewer sometime in 1964 which will relieve a serious drainage disposal problem.

MEAT INSPECTION.

Whilst it has not always been possible to carry out regular inspection of all food premises, I am pleased to report that 100% inspection of all animals slaughtered in the Rural District for human consumption has continued to be maintained. This, however, has only been achieved by the conscientiousness of your Public Health Inspectors who are obliged in order to carry out this service to work outside normal working hours. The butchers themselves have also played a big part in this as, without their goodwill and co-operation, further difficulties regarding inspection might have arisen.

In the 1st October new Meat Inspection Regulations came into operation. These placed increased responsibility on both the trade and local authorities. The local authorities' responsibilities rested mainly on the shoulders of their meat inspectors as the Regulations for the first time made it obligatory for all meat intended for human consumption to be inspected and for the inspector to affix a stamp certifying inspection to all carcasses passed "fit".

The local authority were also empowered to make charges for meat inspection, but I am pleased to report that the Council after careful consideration of the problem, and upon being notified by the butchers of their willingness to co-operate in meat inspection arrangements, decided not to impose charges. The trade too were required to give notification of regular hours and days of slaughter, and longer notice of intention to slaughter to the local authority and restrictions were placed on the trade regarding removal of carcasses after slaughter and identification of offal with a particular carcass.

Regrettably, the Regulations omitted to give local authorities power to regulate the hours of slaughtering, something which has been long overdue.

As the law stands butchers can slaughter at any time of the day or night and at week-ends. This may satisfy the commercial convenience of the butcher, but imposes a considerable burden on the local authority and its inspectors. We in this District, however, are reasonably fortunate in this respect and overtime on meat inspection

is not excessive although the times slaughtering takes place in the six slaughterhouses during normal working hours seriously affects other essential public health duties.

MEAT INSPECTION.

Meat inspection figures for 1963 are given in the table below :—

	Cattle excluding Cows	Cows	Calves	Sheep and Lambs	Pigs	Total
Number killed (as notified)	1363	—	—	2494	5765	9622
Number Inspected	1363	—	—	2494	5765	9622
All diseases except Tuberculosis and Cysticerci :						
Whole carcases condemned	—	—	—	—	6	6
Carcases of which some part or organ was con- demned	182	—	—	29	1364	1575
Percentage of number in- spected affected with disease other than Tuber- culosis and Cysticerci :	13.35%	—	—	1.16%	23.76%	16.43%
Tuberculosis only :						
Whole carcases condemned	—	—	—	—	2	2
Carcases of which some part or organ was con- demned	5	—	—	—	159	164
Percentage of number in- spected affected with Tuberculosis	0.37%	—	—	—	2.79%	1.73%
Cysticercosis :						
Carcases of which some part or organ was condemned	13	—	—	—	—	13
Carcases submitted to treatment by refriger- ation	13	—	—	—	—	13
Generalised and totally condemned	—	—	—	—	—	—

Total weight of meat condemned—4 tons 4 cwts. 1 qr. 8½ lbs.

INSPECTION OF OTHER FOODS.

The undermentioned foodstuffs, found to be unfit for human consumption, were suitably disposed of :—

- 3 6 lb. Libby's Corned Beef.
- 20 15½ oz. Country Garden Dessert Prunes.
- 1 6 lb. Ye Olde Oak Tongue.
- 27 7½ oz. Country Garden Dessert Prunes.
- 1 16 oz. Country Garden Prunes.

- 24 8 oz. Country Garden Prunes.
- 6 3½ lb. Tyne Brand Whole Chicken.
- 5 2 lb. Tyne Brand Danish Ham.
- 1 1 lb. Tyne Brand Ox Tongue.
- 1 15½ oz. Country Garden Sliced Peaches.
- 8 1 lb. 5 oz. Tinned Gammon Ham.
- 11 1 lb. 8 oz. Tinned Gammon Ham.

STORAGE OF PETROLEUM SPIRIT.

The inspection of premises licensed to store petroleum spirit or petroleum mixtures, and the supervision of the installation of new petrol storage tanks, pumps, pipe lines, etc., to ensure compliance with the Petroleum Acts and Regulations and the Council's conditions of licensing, is one of the many duties and responsibilities required to be carried out by the Chief Public Health Inspector.

With pressure of other essential duties and the necessity to ensure that public health work takes priority it has not been possible to devote sufficient time to carry out regular inspections of existing licensed premises. All new applications to install tanks etc., during the year have received maximum inspection before a licence was issued.

This unsatisfactory state of affairs can only be overcome by the Council engaging sufficient technically trained staff to undertake the work.

The installation of underground petroleum storage tanks, together with petrol pumps and associated electrical equipment is a highly skilled and technical operation. It is vitally necessary for the inspector to be acquainted with modern techniques in tank and pump testings, and the proper methods of electrical installations to ensure full compliance with the requirements of the Regulations, which are principally designed to ensure safety.

New techniques and conditions are rapidly being brought into use and the Council during the year accepted an invitation to associate itself with the West Midlands Petroleum Administration Group. This is a body of elected representatives from Councils in the West Midlands who with the Officer responsible for administering the Petroleum Acts frequently meet to discuss changing problems in connection with storage of petroleum and associated works. A bulletin is published quarterly which contains contributions from members on problems met with in practice and other matters including Home Office reports which give valuable information. It is hoped to extend the Group into the East Midlands area and ultimately to become a National body, and I feel that this body will help considerably to formulate a policy ensuring uniformity of control where petroleum is stored, something which is long overdue.

226 installations were under licence at the end of the year, an increase over the previous year of 7.

OFFENSIVE TRADES.

One business only comes under this heading, a licensed Knacker's Yard where animal matter is processed. Frequent inspections have been made and the premises are maintained in a reasonable condition considering the type of business carried on. Some nuisance has occurred from bad drainage but this will be remedied when connection to the Council's public sewer is made during 1964.

RODENT CONTROL.

The duties of rodent control are carried out by the Cleansing Services Foreman. Treatment for the destruction of rats and mice at private dwellings is undertaken without charge. Treatment at business premises is chargeable.

A total of 201 premises were surveyed in connection with rodent infestation and 390 infestations of rats or mice dealt with.

INSECT PEST CONTROL.

All Council controlled refuse tips were treated regularly with insecticides to discourage fly breeding. Wasps nests were destroyed without charge when they constituted a nuisance to householders.

FACTORIES ACTS, 1937 TO 1959.

Annual Report of the Medical Officer of Health in respect of the Year 1963 for the Rural District of Boston in the County of Holland (Lincs.)

PART I OF THE ACT.

1. INSPECTIONS for purposes of provisions as to health.

Premises (1)	Number on Register (2)	Number of		
		Inspec- tions (3)	Written Notices (4)	Occupiers prosecuted (5)
(i) Factories in which Sections 1, 2, 3, 4 and 6 are to be enforced by Local Authorities	9	nil	nil	nil
(ii) Factories not included in (i) in which Section 7 is enforced by the Local Authority	75	1	nil	nil
(iii) Other premises in which Section 7 is enforced by the Local Authority (excluding out-workers' premises)	nil	nil	nil	nil
Total	84	1	nil	nil

2. Cases in which DEFECTS were found.

Particulars (1)	Number of cases in which defects were found				Number of cases in which prosecutions were instituted (6)
	Found (2)	Remedied (3)	Referred to H.M. Inspector (4)	By H.M. Inspector (5)	
Want of cleanliness (S.1)	nil	nil	nil	nil	nil
Overcrowding (S.2)	nil	nil	nil	nil	nil
Unreasonable temperature (S.3)	nil	nil	nil	nil	nil
Inadequate ventilation (S.4)	nil	nil	nil	nil	nil
Ineffective drainage of floors (S.6)	nil	nil	nil	nil	nil
Sanitary conveniences (S.7)				nil	
(a) Insufficient	nil	nil	nil		nil
(b) Unsuitable or defective	nil	1	nil	nil	nil
(c) Not separate for sexes	nil	nil	nil	nil	nil
Other offences against the Act (not including offences relating to outwork)	nil	nil	nil	nil	nil
Total	nil	1	nil	nil	nil

PART VIII OF THE ACT.

Outwork.

(Sections 110 and 111).

Nature of Work (1)	Section 110			Section 111		
	No. of out-workers in August list required by Section 110 (1) (c) (2)	No. of cases of default in sending lists to the Council (3)	No. of prosecutions for failure to supply lists (4)	No. of instances of work in unwholesome premises (5)	Notices served (6)	Prosecutions (7)

NIL OUTWORKERS.

SUMMARY OF INSPECTIONS AND VISITS CARRIED OUT
BY THE PUBLIC HEALTH INSPECTORS, ADDITIONAL TO
THOSE MENTIONED ELSEWHERE IN THIS REPORT.

Housing Acts	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	150
Public Health Act, 1936	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	46
Improvement Grants	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	178
Caravan Sites	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	93
Stables and Piggeries	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	7
Dirty Houses	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	3
Nuisances	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	131
Infectious Diseases and Food Poisoning	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	791
Drainage	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	783
Dyke Pollution and Overflowing Cesspools	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	72
Rodent Control	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	10
Insect Pests	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	5
Provision of Refuse Bins	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	2
Control of Refuse Tips	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	194
Public Cleansing Services	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	55
Salvage	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	—
Slaughterhouses	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	17
Food Premises	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	26
Meat Inspection	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	981
Petroleum Storage	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	183
National Assistance Act, 1948	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	—
Miscellaneous	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	62

WING & CO. LTD.

MITRE LANE

BOSTON - LINGS
